

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard Street, Cumberland
Allegany County, Maryland
1906
Access: Public

Capsule Summary

Located along Howard Street and the former right of way of a Western Maryland Railway spur, that is now a pedestrian way in Canal Place, the remaining portion of the Footer's Dye Works building stands in the shadow of the elevated path of I-68. The building dating from 1906 consists of a long, narrow four story gable roofed brick industrial structure with a one story saw tooth extension to its south side. The long side of the four story section runs along Howard Street almost to South Mechanic Street. Attached to the south elevation, opposite the Howard Street façade, is a seven-bay saw tooth extension, one story high. There is a one story shed-roofed addition, although it is probably part of the original construction campaign, attached to the five northern bays of the west elevation of the saw tooth wing and to the south wall of the main structure at its southwest corner. The east elevation of the saw tooth wing is masked by a brick parapet wall with a tiled cap. A loading dock protected by a suspended shed roof is located along the south elevation of the four story section abutting the east side of the saw tooth portion of the building. Once part of a huge complex that included several four story and one story saw tooth buildings as well as water towers and smokestacks, the current building is all that remains. The surrounding landscape is leveled earth with some vegetation and macadam-surfaced lot. To the north and west of the building is the redeveloped Canal Place facility and beyond that, the C&O Canal, Potomac River and Wills Creek confluence.

The remaining building of the Footer's Dye Works complex is a significant example of industrial architecture dating from the first decade of the 20th century (1906) in the city of Cumberland, Maryland. Throughout the 1920s, Footer's Dye Works was one of the dominant cleaning and dyeing establishments in the mid-Atlantic region, with major branch offices located in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. At its peak, Footer's Dye Works employed as many as 500 people and numbered the White House among its clients. Historically a vibrant industrial town served by numerous railroads, the C&O Canal, and the National Road, the city of Cumberland suffered a substantial loss of industry, jobs, and population through the second half of the 20th century. Although no longer occupied by industry, the remaining industrial buildings of Cumberland serve to highlight the historic web of transportation and industry that made Cumberland into the second largest city in Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AL-IV-A-171

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Footer's Dye Works
other

2. Location

street and number S. Mechanic and Howard Streets not for publication
city, town Cumberland vicinity
county Allegany

3. Owner of Property (gives names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority
street and number 13 Canal St. telephone 301-724-3655
city, town Cumberland state MD zip code 21502

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany Co. Courthouse liber 656 folio 854
city, town Cumberland tax map 109 tax parcel 7236A tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape <input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion <input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	

Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

☐ 0

7. Description

Inventory No. AL-IV-A-171

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/>	excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	good	<input type="checkbox"/>	ruins
<input type="checkbox"/>	fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary

Located along Howard Street and the former right of way of a Western Maryland Railway spur, that is now a pedestrian way in Canal Place, the remaining portion of the Footer's Dye Works building stands in the shadow of the elevated path of I-68. The building dating from 1906 consists of a long, narrow four story gable roofed brick industrial structure with a one story saw tooth extension to its south side. The long side of the four story section runs along Howard Street almost to South Mechanic Street. Attached to the south elevation, opposite the Howard Street façade, is a seven-bay saw tooth extension, one story high. There is a one story shed-roofed addition, although it is probably part of the original construction campaign, attached to the five northern bays of the west elevation of the saw tooth wing and to the south wall of the main structure at its southwest corner. The east elevation of the saw tooth wing is masked by a brick parapet wall with a tiled cap. A loading dock protected by a suspended shed roof is located along the south elevation of the four story section abutting the east side of the saw tooth portion of the building. Once part of a huge complex that included several four story and one story saw tooth buildings as well as water towers and smokestacks, the current building is all that remains. The surrounding landscape is leveled earth with some vegetation and macadam-surfaced lot. To the north and west of the building is the redeveloped Canal Place facility and beyond that, the C&O Canal, Potomac River and Wills Creek confluence.

Description

The Footer's Dye Works building is situated along Howard Street with gable ends east and west. The north and south elevations are 20 bays in length, while the end walls are two bays wide. A concrete block elevator tower protrudes from the south wall toward the east end of the building. Along the cornice line of the two long sides of the buildings, framed catwalks have been attached to catch falling roof tiles and provide access to the roof and cornice area. The building rests on rock-faced formed stone foundations, which rise to a height above ground level of about three feet. The walls are of hard-fired red brick laid in common bond at all elevations with a 5:1 header to stretcher row ratio. The brick work, especially that on the end walls, is distinguished by extensive decorative corbelling, including quoins at the corners, a corbelled brick pediment and bands between the stories. Round windows lined with header bricks are centered in each gable pediment. Segmental arches with double rows of header bricks top the windows and doors. The parapet façade wall hiding the saw tooth roof at the east elevation of the building is painted a cream color, while other walls are natural brick finish. Painted signage remains on the east and west gable walls, and particularly on the west wall, identifying the building as Footer's Dye Works. The painted work appears to date from the early 20th century and may be original to the period of construction of the building. Terra cotta tiles cover the roof.

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Windows in the four story section form an important aspect of the industrial character of the building. They all have segmentally arched tops. The sash, where still present are four over four light, doubled, although some windows have two over two light sash. Many of the windows are boarded shut with plywood. The 1910 Sanborn Insurance Map notes wire glass windows in place. The saw tooth section (described as such in the 1910 Sanborn Map), has repeated steeply angled brick "gables" with vertical surfaces on one side. The vertical faces, all north-facing contain ranks of side-by-side windows with six-light top-hinged sash with missing panes boarded shut. All windows are paired or doubled, beneath a shared segmental arch. The segmental arches are made of three courses of header bricks, except for the fourth floor windows which utilize only two courses of headers to form the window arches. The fourth story windows are smaller, shorter than the other rows of windows. The east parapet wall has four windows providing a false front facing S. Mechanic Street. The four windows have remnants of what appear to have been double hung three light sash. Applied trim pieces create the affect of segmental arches.

Doors are located on the east and west ends of both sections of the building, and at the loading dock area on the south side. There are also entrances in the third bay from each end of the north façade of the building. Unlike the other entrances, these have fully rounded arched tops with fanlights with three triangular lights. Other original doorways have segmentally arched tops lined with a double course of header bricks. Later or altered doorways have flat headers supported by steel lintels. Doors are double-leafed. In the east wall of the saw tooth section original doorways were bricked in and replaced by large rectangular openings. Doors have vertical tongue and groove board surfaces. Some are double surfaced and have an interior facing of diagonally placed tongue and groove paneling. Doors to loading dock spaces are covered with diagonal tongue and groove panels and hang on steel roller tracks.

The interior of the building presents large cavernous spaces with steel columns placed at regular intervals for support. The first story includes the saw tooth section open to the main part of the building and integral with it. The brick wall for the upper stories' south side rests on a steel I-beam supported by steel columns. Smaller steel beams spanning the width of the saw tooth section, north to south rest on the main steel beam and are embedded into the brick wall of the main building that rests on the steel beam. Flooring material is poured concrete at the first floor. The ceilings of the saw tooth portion of the space are open revealing the roof framework and to allow the light from the rows of windows to illuminate the space. The ceiling of the main building's first story appears to have had some sort of covering tacked on, but it is now loose and sagging. Steel posts and beams are exposed. In the east end of the first floor level is an office area partitioned off from the rest of the space with concrete blocks.

Stairways are located in the southwest and southeast corners of the building. They are enclosed within an exposed stud framed wall covered with horizontal beaded tongue and groove paneling. The remainder of the west end wall of the main section's first story includes built in restrooms.

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The upper stories are open end to end punctuated with a row of steel support columns running down the middle of the long rectangular space, slightly north of center. On the fourth floor, a foreman's room is partitioned off in the west end of the building. The upper floors have wood tongue and groove flooring running east-west. Five skylights help to illuminate the fourth floor. The fourth floor space has wooden ceilings of beaded tongue and groove paneling. Also at the fourth floor level, recent wooden platforms have been constructed to catch falling roof tiles. Although these are exterior structures, their framing extends to the interior.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates	1906-1937	Architect/Builder	unknown
Construction dates	1906		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary Statement of Significance

The remaining building of the Footer's Dye Works complex is a significant example of industrial architecture dating from the first decade of the 20th century (1906) in the city of Cumberland, Maryland. Throughout the 1920s, Footer's Dye Works was one of the dominant cleaning and dyeing establishments in the mid-Atlantic region, with major branch offices located in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. At its peak, Footer's Dye Works employed as many as 500 people and numbered the White House among its clients. Historically a vibrant industrial town served by numerous railroads, the C&O Canal, and the National Road, the city of Cumberland suffered a substantial loss of industry, jobs, and population through the second half of the 20th century. Although no longer occupied by industry, the remaining industrial buildings of Cumberland serve to highlight the historic web of transportation and industry that made Cumberland into the second largest city in Maryland.

Historic Context

The city of Cumberland, Maryland, sited at the confluence of the Potomac River and Wills Creek, was laid out in 1785. With the topography around the city, it became a point through which most westbound traffic passed. Cumberland by the late 19th century became a major rail and transportation center with easy access to the Georges Creek Coal resources. The excellent transportation facilities and the availability of coal for fuel attracted industries such as Kelly-Springfield and Celanese Corporation to the Cumberland area, swelling the population during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and increasing development in those time periods. Today most of these manufacturing industries are gone.

A few pioneering farmers and fur traders initially settled western Maryland in the 1730s and 1740s. At that time Lord Baltimore had just opened Maryland's frontier or "back country" for

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settlement, and Germans were migrating through the area to create settlements in Virginia. Speculators from eastern Maryland responded by acquiring large tracts for subdivision and resale to German farmers. As settlement progressed, political divisions of the frontier occurred. Until 1748, western Maryland was part of Prince George's County. Afterward it was Frederick County until 1776 when Washington County was formed, covering all of western Maryland. In 1789, Allegany County was carved from the western mountainous region of Washington County, with Cumberland as the county seat.

Settlement was sparse until the close of the French and Indian War in 1763, and the end of Pontiac's rebellion the following year. Cumberland, site of the westernmost Maryland fort, Fort Cumberland, was well situated to serve as a center for the region. General Braddock's road, cut during the French and Indian War to aid in the transportation of troops and supplies westward, now served as a route for the transport of agricultural products to the eastern markets. The track also provided a template for Thomas Jefferson's National Road to access the Ohio territories newly acquired with the Louisiana Purchase in 1804. Construction on the road began in Cumberland in 1811 along Greene Street, near the former site of Fort Cumberland and where much of the town's early development was located.¹

The National Road, which eventually connected with Baltimore via a series of private turnpikes, was an important step in transportation improvements in western Maryland. However, much of the progress in the region and in the town of Cumberland was largely due to the establishment of both the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad Company and the Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal Company in 1828. Following similar routes through Maryland, both companies began construction in 1828 in a race to reach Cumberland and Ohio beyond. The railroad reached Cumberland in 1842 and the canal arrived eight years later in 1850. Providing cheaper transportation options to a region plagued by the expense of transporting products over land, the B&O Railroad and C&O Canal both significantly impacted the city and its industries.

Both the canal and railroad entered Cumberland along the Potomac River from the southeast, sparking the industrial development of that section of the city. These transportation systems and the industry they spawned provided significant employment opportunities and triggered an explosion of working class neighborhoods through the 19th century in Cumberland. "The first substantial community development beyond the general area of the original fort site was on the east side of Wills Creek, on present-day Mechanic Street. Mechanic Street was a focus of commercial and residential development, and became a neighborhood populated by the mechanics and artisans of the community."²

Leading industries in Maryland, determined by value of product in 1860 included 1) Flour and Meal; 2) Men's Clothing; 3) Cotton Goods; 4) Sugar, Refined; and 5) Leather. By 1870, the list had changed: 1) Sugar, Refined; 2) Flouring and Grist Mill Products; 3) Men's Clothing; 4) Cotton Goods; and 5) Iron, Forged and Rolled. The leading industries had shifted again by 1880: 1) Men's Clothing; 2) Flouring and Grist Mill Products; 3) Fruits and Vegetables, Canned; 4) Fertilizers; and 5) Cotton Goods. Ten years later in 1890, first was still men's clothing, then brick and stone

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masonry, canning and preserving fruits and vegetables, with flour milling products dropped to fourth place in value of product. In 1900, flour and grist mill products had dropped again to the number five position behind men's clothing, fruit and vegetable canning, iron and steel, and foundry and machine shop products.³

The value of product trends shown above indicates that Maryland was shifting from an agricultural based economy to one based on manufacturing and factory produced goods. In Maryland, by 1914, more people were working in industry than in agriculture, and more were living in urban areas than in the country.⁴ Outside of Baltimore, nowhere in Maryland was this shift in population more evident than in Cumberland. Between 1887, when Cumberland's population stood at 11,000, and 1910, the city population more than doubled reaching 24,000 according to Sanborn Insurance map tabulations.⁵ "From the mid-19th century to the early 20th century, Cumberland was the second largest manufacturing center in the state...The steel rolling mill on Williams Street [in the neighborhood of S. Mechanic Street] was a major employer in Cumberland from 1870 into the 20th century, and served as a major influence on the development of Cumberland's east side...other leading industries included glass works, iron and steel works, and breweries. Now-defunct industries, which dominated the City during the early 20th century, included Footer's Dye Works and the Kelly Springfield Tire Company, the latter of which located in Cumberland in 1920 and sparked the City's last major building boom."⁶ Writing in 1911, Clarence Weaver described the character of the expanding city:

CUMBERLAND is a City of thirty odd thousand inhabitants with its suburbs a large share of whom are supported by the railroads and manufactories.

There are many factories, mills and plants of various kinds, among which are N. & G. Taylor Tin Plate Company; U.S. Rail Company; Potomac Glass Company; Wellington Glass Company; Eastern Glass Company; Maryland Glass Etching Works, Cumberland Gas Light Company, Edison Electric Illuminating Company, Klots Throwing Company, Silk Mills, McKaig Foundry and Machine Works, Cumberland Steel and Shafting Works, Footer's Dye Works, United States Tannery, four large Milling Companies, several Planing Mills, Sash and Door factories, Candy Factories, Distilleries, Breweries, Brick Yards, Garages, etc.⁷

Activity on the National Road picked up as well in the early 20th century with the advent of the automobile, becoming part of a major transcontinental route by the 1920s. The well-developed network of roads and rails enhanced suburban growth around Cumberland as people began to move out of city the center. After struggling through several devastating floods, the closure of the C&O Canal in 1924, and the Depression of the 1930s, World War II industrial needs brought a fresh infusion of manufacturing work for Cumberland's largest industries, Kelly-Springfield Tires and the Celanese Corporation (est. 1924), and continued the suburban expansion of Cumberland.

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Despite the boost following WWII, the decline of the railroad and manufacturing industries through the later decades of the 20th century accelerated the deterioration of Cumberland's economy and a disappearing population. Indicative of the growing importance of the automobile and trucking, Interstate Highway 68 cut through the center of town forever altering the city's appearance and its neighborhoods.

Resource History

Thomas Footer, an immigrant from England who received American citizenship in 1869, established "Footer's Steam and Dye Works" in Cumberland, Maryland in 1870.⁸ In 1878, Footer was one of two "Dyers" in Cumberland, by then a city of 14,000 people.⁹ Initially located in a N. Liberty Street storefront building in the heart of the city's business district, Footer's cleaning and dyeing operation grew through the second half of the 19th century (see ca.1880 photograph of Footer's Steam and Dye Works). In 1887, when the first Sanborn Insurance Company map was drawn for Cumberland, Footer's building was a series of several additions reaching into the center of the city block (see attached 1887 Sanborn map). But by 1904, Footer's, under the name "Thomas Footer & Son" to include his son Harry Footer, had expanded across the block into a labarinth of additions. The building's closest neighbors were the old German Reformed Church on the east and the new U.S. Courthouse on the west (see 1904 Sanborn map).

With little room left on N. Liberty Street to expand, in 1904, Thomas Footer undertook a plan to relocate his factory to the developing industrial area east of the C&O Canal basin. The several parcels Thomas and Harry Footer purchased, noted as part of "Landwehr's addition to Cumberland," were previously the location of George Landwehr's lumber yard and the Johnson Mill (see 1897 Sanborn map and photo #1833 "S. Mechanic St. at Williams Bridge," shown as "Potomac Planing Mill" on the 1904 Sanborn map).¹⁰ The new Footer property formed a block, bordered on the east by S. Mechanic St., on the south by the mill race and Williams St., on the north by a new street called Howard St., and on the west by a spur of the Western Maryland Railroad. On March 1, 1906, the local newspaper Cumberland Times, announced that Footer's Dye Works intended to build a new building on S. Mechanic St. and move there from their N. Liberty St. location.¹¹ With the bulk of the complex constructed in 1906, and an additional "Wet Dye House" constructed on land to the south in 1910, the block was filled with brick factory buildings housing "America's Greatest Cleaning and Dyeing Works" (see attached advertisement, 1910 Sanborn map, and 1911 postcard view).¹²

Perhaps a result of the massive building campaign, by 1920 the company was facing financial trouble. Local historian T.J.C. Williams, writing in 1923 noted: "...Mr. [Thomas] Finan with others incorporated and re-financed Footer's Dye Works, the largest cleaning and dyeing establishment in the United States, and he is now president of this nationally known concern."¹³ After witnessing the rescue of his life's work, Thomas Footer died in 1923, but his sons continued with the company. In 1929, the Cumberland City Directory listed Thomas Finan as President of

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Footer's Dye Works, Harry Footer as Vice President, and Joseph Footer – a farmer on the 1900 census – as Superintendant.¹⁴

Throughout the 1920s, Footer's Dye Works continued as one of the dominant cleaning and dyeing establishments in the region.

At its peak the Footer's Dye Works boasted of a weekly payroll exceeding several thousand dollars. With nearly 500 employees, the company had branch offices located in twenty cities in nearby states for the receiving and forwarding of goods. One source of business originated from Washington; lace curtains from the White House were shipped to Footer's for cleaning.¹⁵

Major branch offices were located in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh, according to the company's advertising flier (see attached).

The 1930s, however, brought hard times to Footer's Dye Works. It was in the 1930s that the new "dry" cleaning process was beginning to take hold, replacing the steam cleaning process used in Footer's factory. With the Great Depression in full swing throughout the United States, pressure from dry cleaning competition, and then a devastating Potomac River flood in March of 1936, Footer's Dye Works filed for bankruptcy on June 12, 1936. On December 30th, the plant was sold by a court trustee to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, which held the mortgage, for \$200,000.¹⁶ With the sale of the Footer's Dye Works property, the cleaning and dyeing operation closed.

By 1939, Harry Footer opened a cleaning business in the old Footer's building on N. Liberty St. called Harry Footer & Co. (see 1949 Sanborn map, N. Liberty St. detail).¹⁷ His was among twenty "Clothes Pressers and Cleaners" listed in Cumberland in 1939. In June of 1939, part of the Footer's S. Mechanic St. complex was sold to Liberty Cleaners & Dyers, Inc.¹⁸ This company was likely a secondary operation of Harry Footer's Liberty St. cleaners (though this is not confirmed). The 1949 Sanborn map shows the part of the building purchased by Liberty Cleaners as a "Dry Cleaning" business (see attached).

Between 1939 and 1949, the former Footer's Dye Works complex was subdivided and sold. The 1939 deed to Liberty Cleaners noted that another part of the complex was deeded earlier to "Red Head Oil Co."¹⁹ The 1949 Sanborn map shows not only the dry cleaners and oil company sections, but a "Trade School" in the eastern-most buildings and a "Montgomery Ward warehouse" in the first floor of the four-story brick building along Howard St. and its one-story saw tooth south section (the building still standing in 2005). By 1956, when the last Sanborn Insurance Co. map was drawn of the complex, most of the eastern section was demolished and replaced with a parking lot. The cleaners, oil company, and Montgomery Ward still occupied their buildings. But the large four-story brick building that housed the Wards warehouse also had the state employment offices in the second floor and the Army Reserve in the third floor (see 1956 Sanborn map).

In 1965, U.S. Route 40 through Cumberland (later made part of Interstate Route 68) was relocated onto a raised concrete platform that sliced through the center of the city just north of the

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old Footer's Dye Works complex. By 1972, little of the old complex remained; the four-story brick building along Howard Street and its one-story saw tooth roofed companion were sold by Merchandise Mart (Montgomery Ward?) to Tri-State Mine & Mill Supply.²⁰ Tri-State was the last to occupy the former Footer's factory building. In 1997, Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority purchased the property from Jonway, Inc. (formerly Tri-State Mine & Mill Supply).²¹

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. AL-IV-A-171

- Allegany County Land Records, Allegany Co. Courthouse, Cumberland, MD.
Bruce, Robert, "The National Road," (National Highway Association, 1916), as reproduced on <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdallegn/national.htm>, 2001.
Feldstein, Albert. *Feldstein's Historic Album of Allegany County*, Cumberland, MD: Commercial Press Printing Co., 1983.
Reed, Paula S., "Final Report, Historic Property Evaluations, Washington, Allegany and Garrett Counties, Maryland," March 7, 2000 (Revised July 11, 2000).
Sanborn Insurance Co. Maps, Enoch Pratt Free Library, www.epfl.net
Schwartz, Lee G., Albert L. Feldstein, and Joan H. Baldwin, *A Pictorial History, Allegany County*, Virginia Beach, VA: Donning, 1980.
U.S. Population Census Records, HeritageQuest Online, www.heritagequestonline.com
Wallace, Roberts & Todd, "Canal Place Management Plan," October 1995.
Ware, Donna M., *Green Glades and Sooty Gob Piles*, Crownsville: Maryland Historical Trust, 1991.
Weaver, Clarence E. *STORY OF CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND; THE QUEENCITY OF THE ALLEGHANIES*, The Eddy Press Corporation, 1911, as reproduced on <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdallegn/cumberla.htm>, 2001.
Williams, T.J.C., *History of Allegany County*, (1923); reprint, Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1969.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 23,584 sq. feet (1st floor gross area)
Acreage of historical setting 23,584 sq. feet (1st floor gross area)
Quadrangle name Cumberland Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is that described in DB 656, page 854, Parcel One (Tax Map 109, Parcel 7236A), which outlines the building now standing.

The outline of the building is used as the boundary because the remaining property associated with the Footer's Dye Works is now vacant and covered with scrub and macadam and no longer conveys any historic association. This boundary was individually defined in 1997 as Parcel One (DB 656, p. 854) and is listed in the Allegany Tax record on Tax Map 109, Parcel 7236A.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paula S. Reed, Ph.D., architectural historian; Edie Wallace, historian
organization Paula S. Reed & Assoc., Inc. date January 2006
street & number 1 W. Franklin St., Suite 300 telephone 301-739-2070
city or town Hagerstown state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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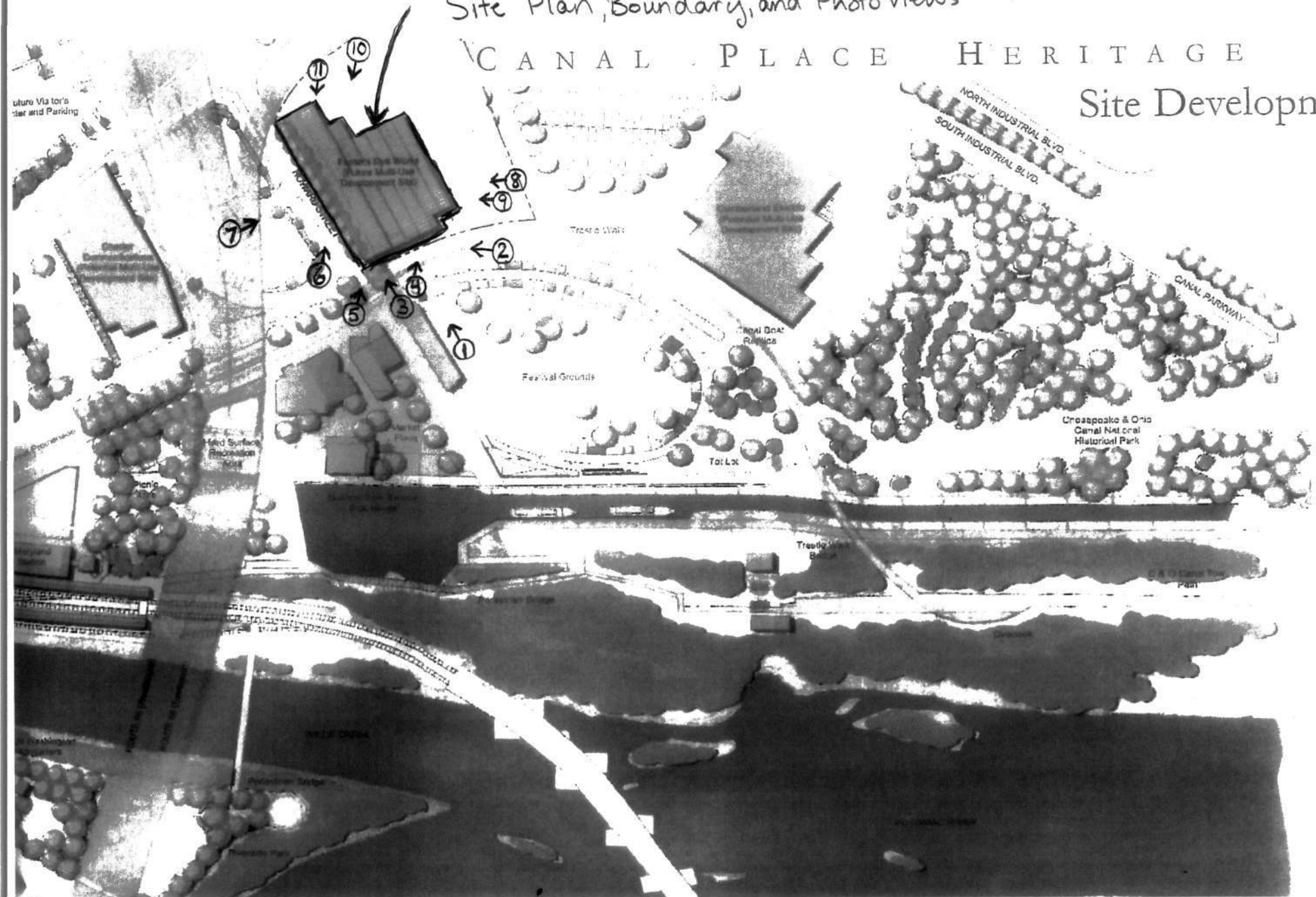
Endnotes

- ¹ Wallace Roberts & Todd, "Canal Place Management Plan," October 1995, p. 37.
- ² Ibid, p. 41.
- ³ Eleanor Bruchey, "The Industrialization of Maryland, 1860-1914," in Walsh and Fox, p. 483,484.
- ⁴ Bruchey, p. 396, citing U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Census of Manufactures: 1914*, I, 553.
- ⁵ 1887, 1892, 1897, 1904, and 1910 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, Cumberland, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD.
- ⁶ Wallace Roberts & Todd, p. 43.
- ⁷ Weaver, Clarence E. *STORY OF CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND; THE QUEENCITY OF THE ALLEGHANIES*, The Eddy Press Corporation, 1911.
- ⁸ 1900 U.S. Population Census; Albert Feldstein, *Feldstein's Historic Album of Allegany County*, (Cumberland, MD: Commercial Press Printing Co., 1983), p. 3.
- ⁹ 1878 Maryland Directory, published by J. Frank Lewis & Co. of Baltimore, transcribed by Jeffrey C. Weaver on www.ls.net/~newriver/md/md1878.htm
- ¹⁰ DB 96, p. 286, Parcels 5 and 6, Thomas and Harry Footer to Footers Dye Works of Cumberland.
- ¹¹ Allegany Co., MDGenWeb Archives, "The Cumberland Times (Excerpts)," www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/md/allegany/ctimes.htm.
- ¹² DB 106, p. 485 (1910), J. Clarence Lane and trustees of the C&O Canal to Footers Dye Works. Additional deeds include DB 96, p. 622 (1905), Walsh to Footer's; DB 102, p. 277 (1907), Potomac Planing Mill to Footer's; DB 113, p. 33 (1913), Trieber to Footer's; and DB 122, p. 541 (1917), Footer's Realty Corp. to Footer's Dye Works, a conveyance of all Footer's parcels into one.
- ¹³ "Distinguished Citizens of Allegany County," excerpts from Williams and Thomas, *History of Allegany County, Maryland*, www.rootsweb.com/~mdallegh/bios/biograph.htm.
- ¹⁴ 1929 Cumberland City Directory, R.L. Polk, NY, p. 286, Allegany County Public Library, Cumberland, MD.
- ¹⁵ Feldstein, p. 89.
- ¹⁶ DB 176, p. 413.
- ¹⁷ 1939 Cumberland City Directory, R.L. Polk, NY, pp. 836 and 848.
- ¹⁸ DB 184, p. 32.
- ¹⁹ Ibid.
- ²⁰ DB 454, p. 117. Merchandise Mart had a reconveyance deed recorded in 1966 (DB 403, p. 441) but the concurrent deed "to be recorded among the Land Records of Allegany Co. prior to the recordation of this deed" was not recorded. There was also no record for the original Merchandise Mart purchase of the Footer's property sometime between 1937 and 1966.
- ²¹ DB 656, p. 854.



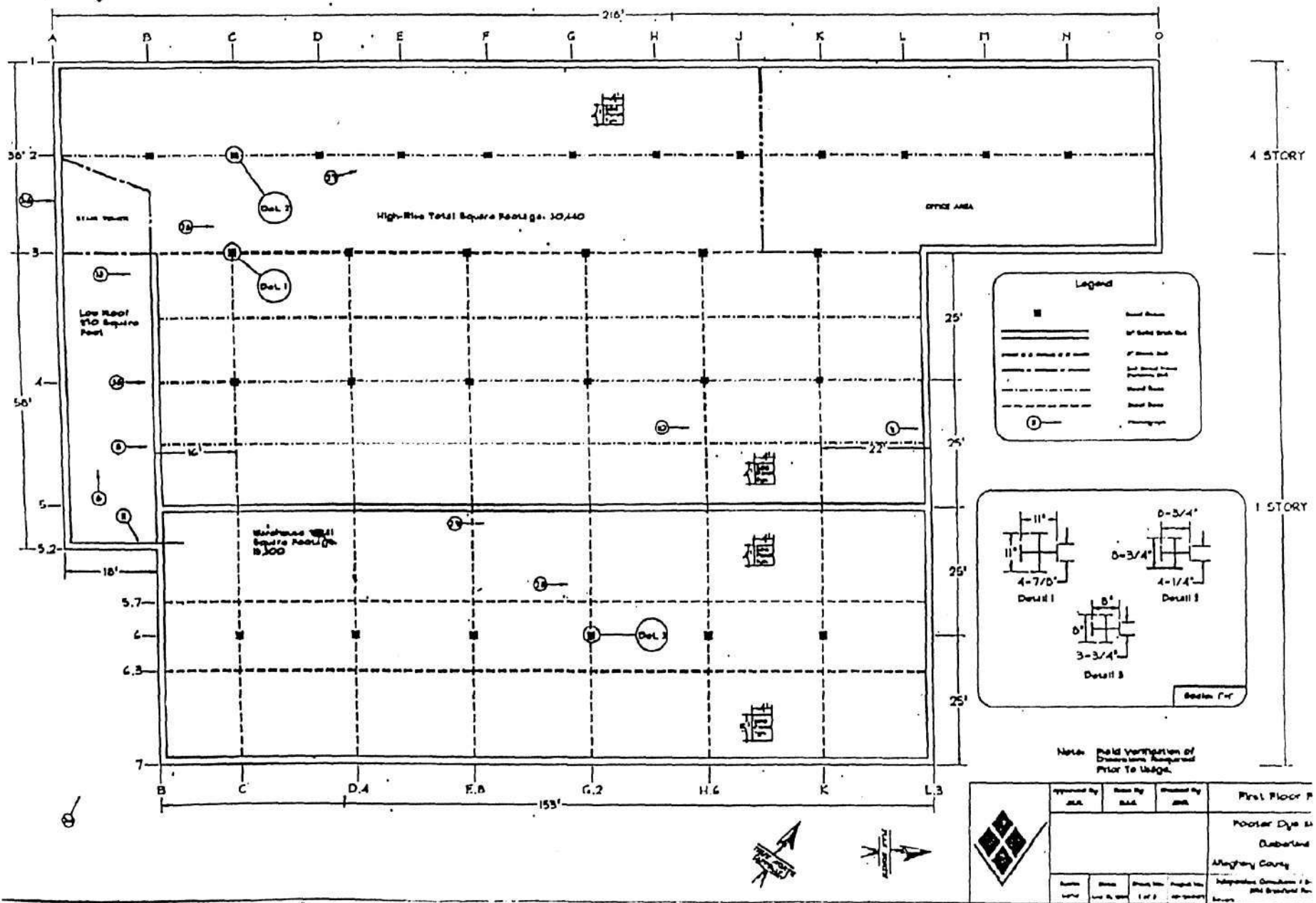
AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegheny Co., MD
Site Plan, Boundary, and Photo Views

CANAL PLACE HERITAGE AREA Site Development



AL-IV-A-171
 Footer's Dye Works
 Howard St., Cumberland
 Allegany Co., MD

First Floor Plan - Footer Dye Works



From Canal Place "Redevelopment of the Footer Dye Works Bldg, Request for Proposals," 1999.



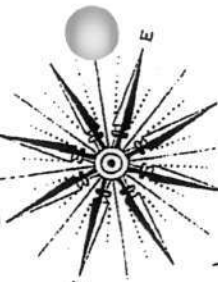
Herman + Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#1915 Footer's business on N. Liberty St. Steam and Dye Works.
Small sign "Dr. Beachy" on bldg - 1880

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD

APRIL 1897
CUMBERLAND
MD.

4

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegheny Co., MD



N-LIBERTY

GERMAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

73

S. HELSO'S
LIVERY

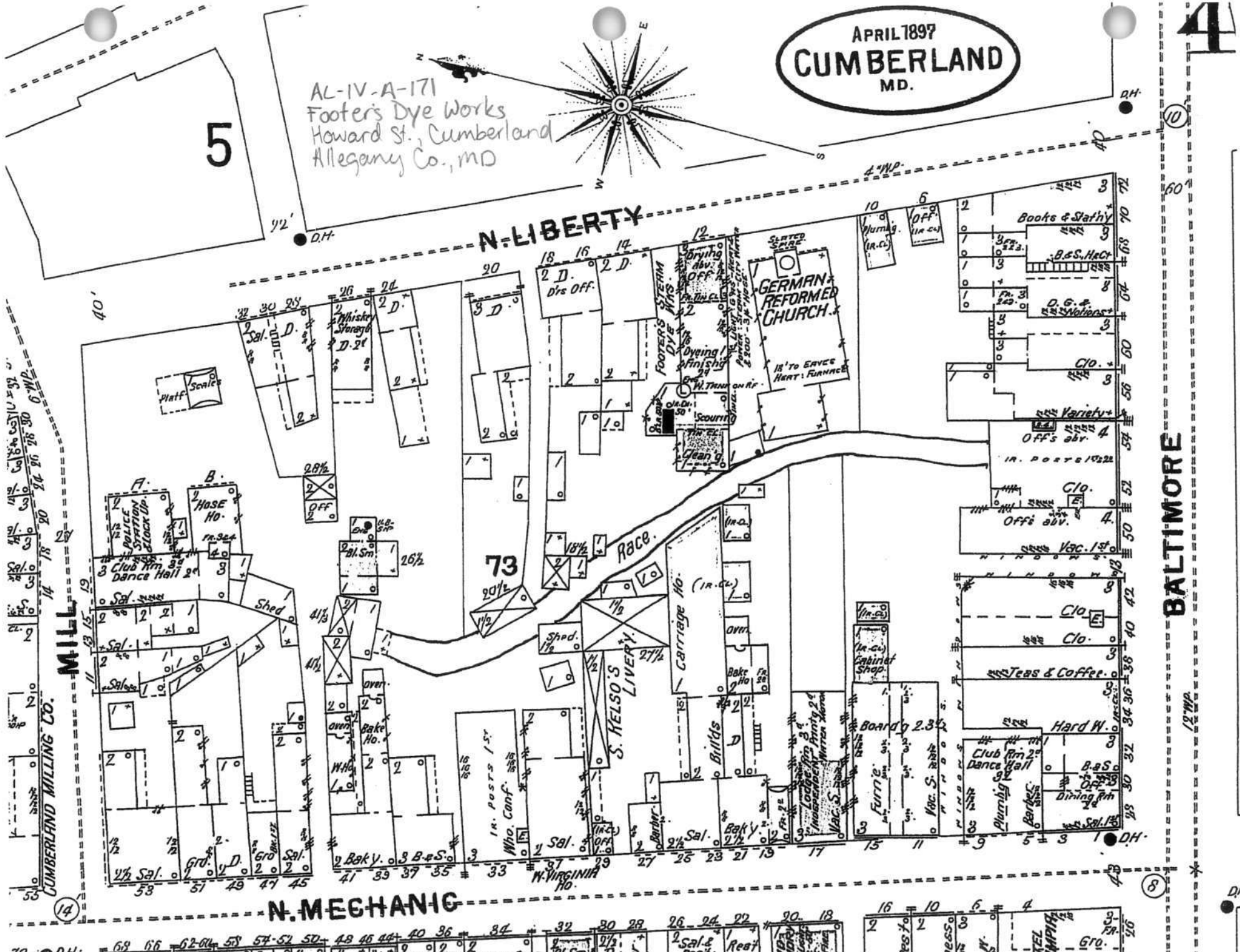
Carriage Ho.

N-MECHANIC

BALTIMORE

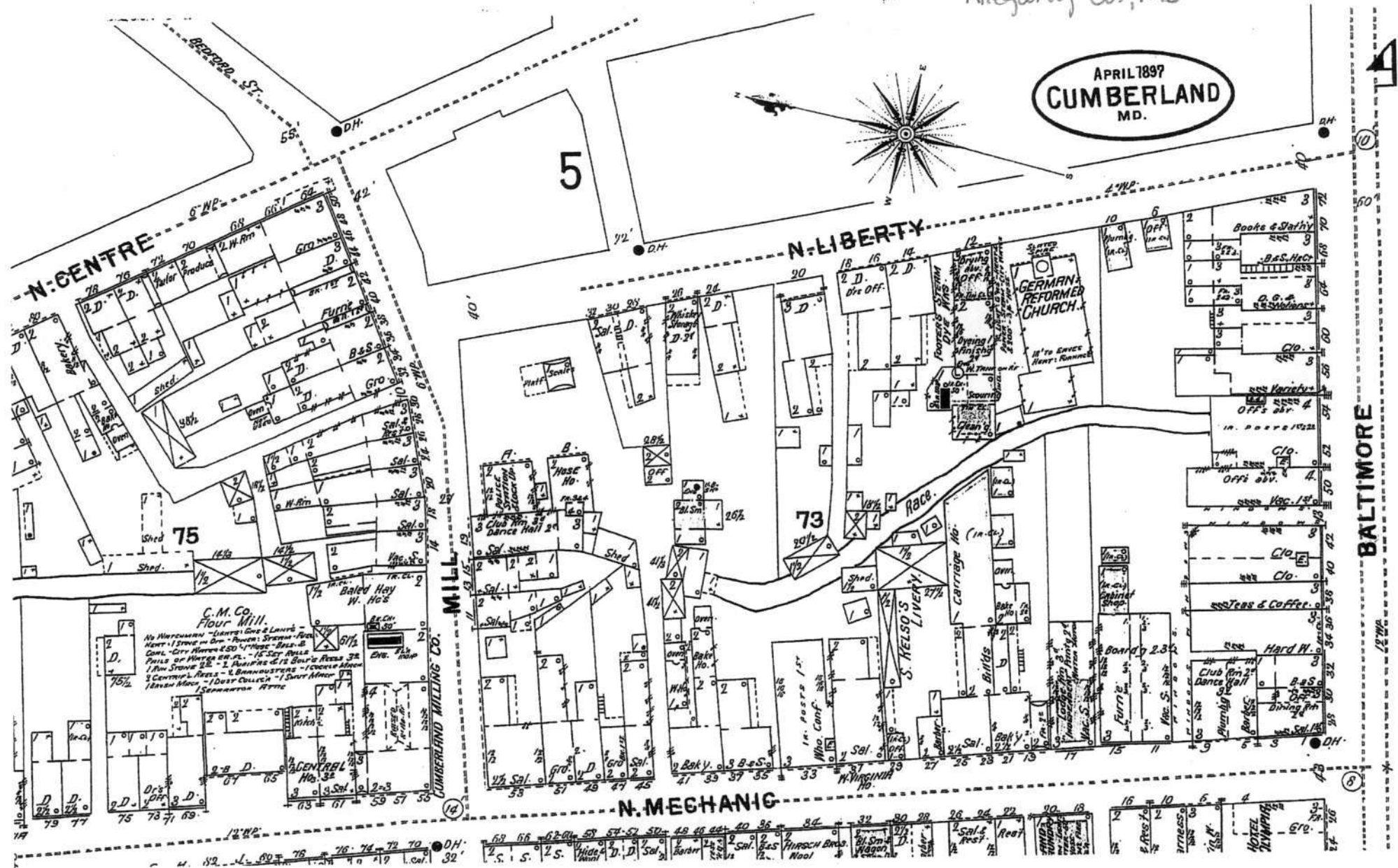
12th St

DH



AL-IV-A-171
 Footer's Dye Works
 Howard St., Cumberland
 Allegany Co., MD

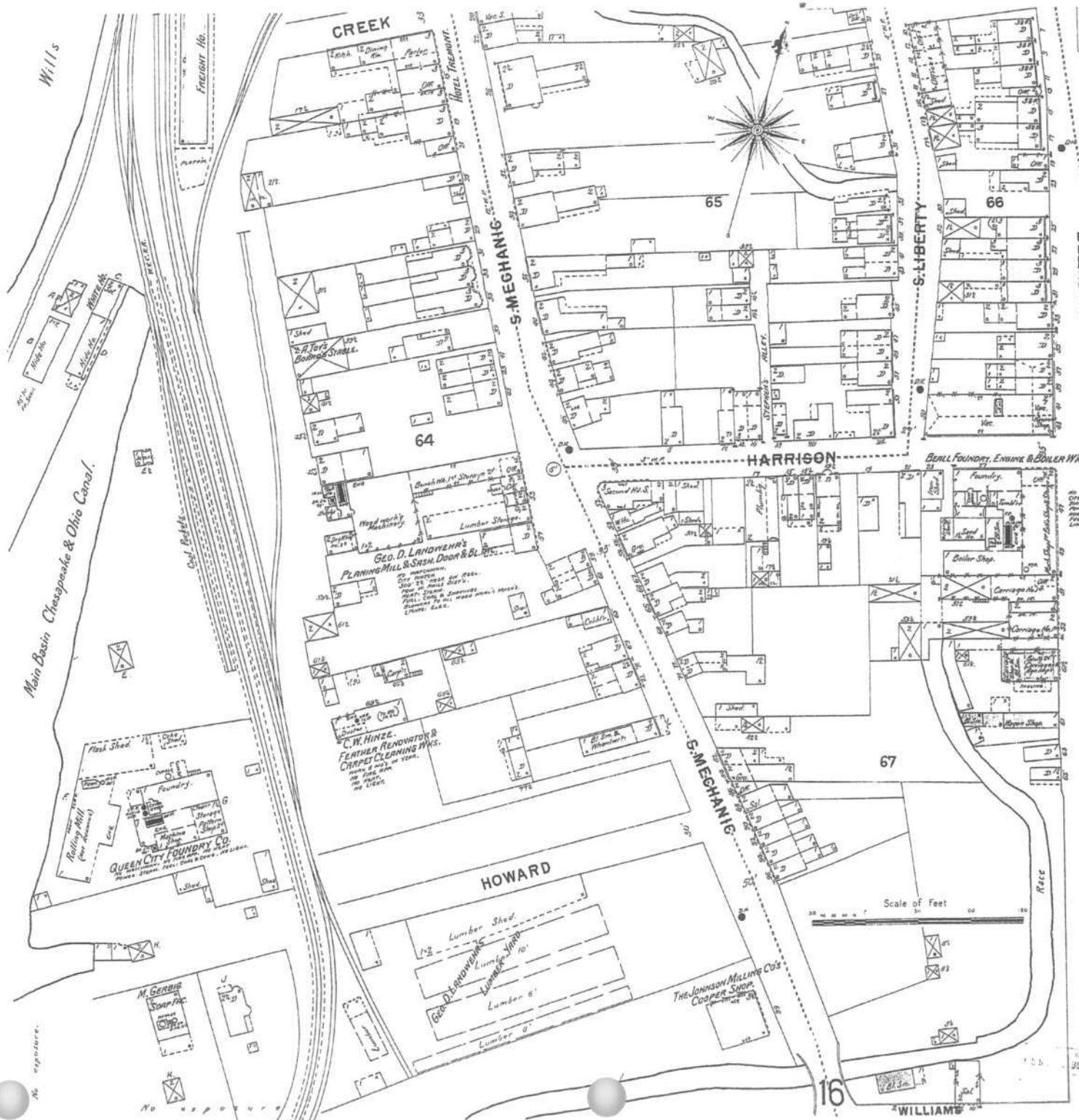
APRIL 1897
CUMBERLAND
 MD.





Herman & Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
1900 Footer Dye Works employees in front of store
on N. Liberty St. - 1900

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD



AL-N-A-171
 Footer's Dye Works
 Howard St. Cumberland
 Allegany Co., MD

1897
 Sanborn Map

3

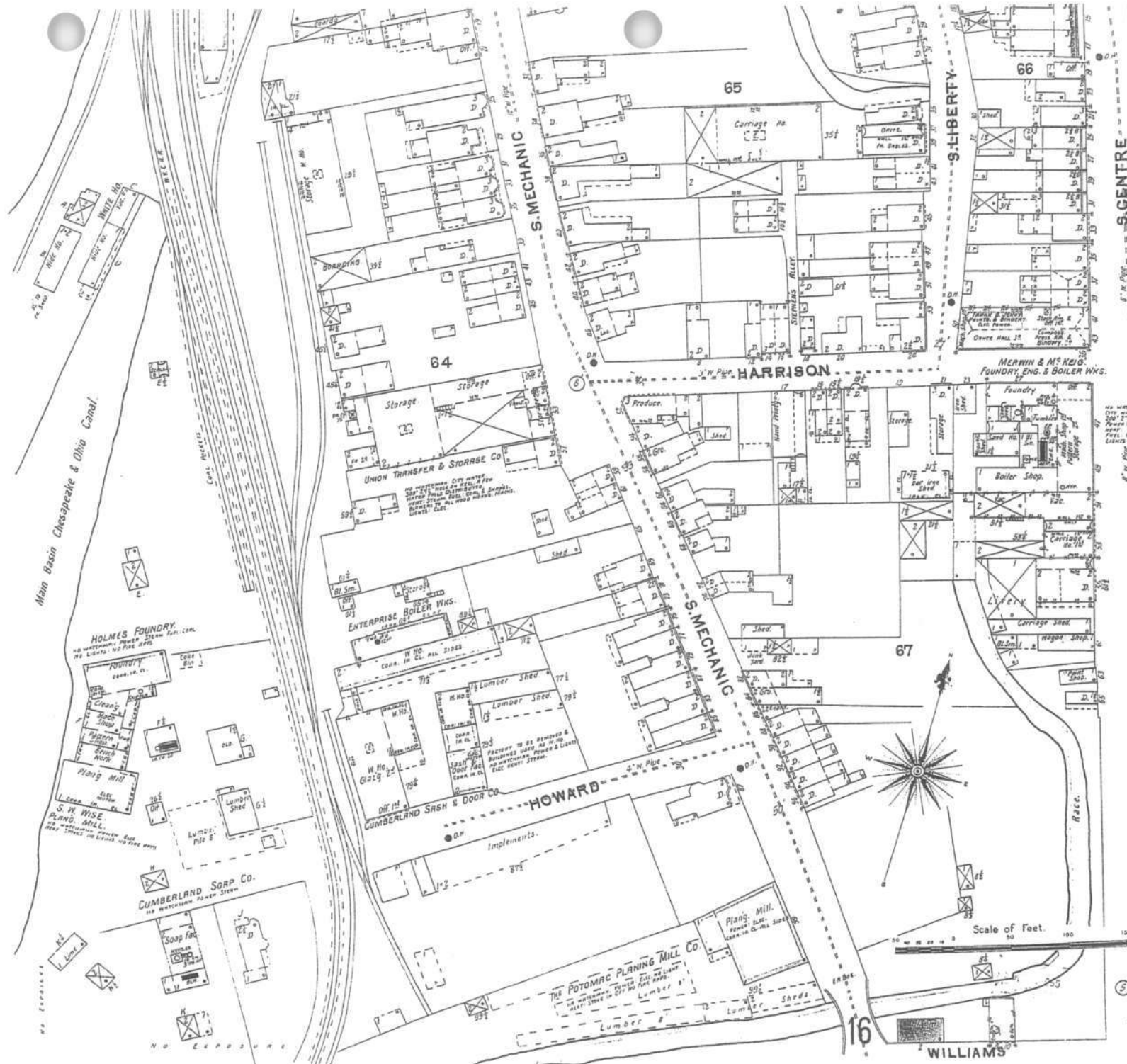
16



Herman & Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#1833 S. Mechanic St. at Williams. Bridge over
Mill Race. Mill Bldg.

[1887 Sanborn shows Johnson's Milling Co. - this is the
lot the Footer's developed on in 1906]

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD



3

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St. Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD

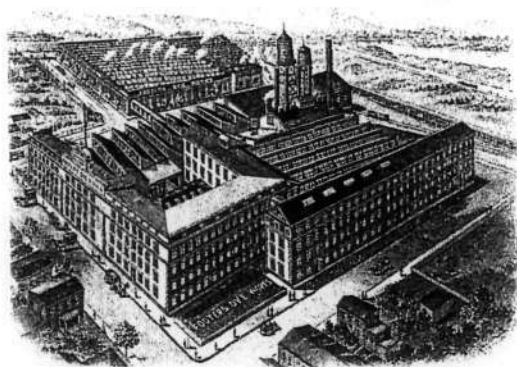
1904
Sanborn Map

16

WILLIAMS

AL-IV-A-171
Footers Dye Works
Howard St. Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD

AMERICA'S GREATEST CLEANING AND DYEING WORKS.



THE PLACE WHERE CLEANING AND DYEING
HAVE ATTAINED THEIR HIGHEST PERFECTION.

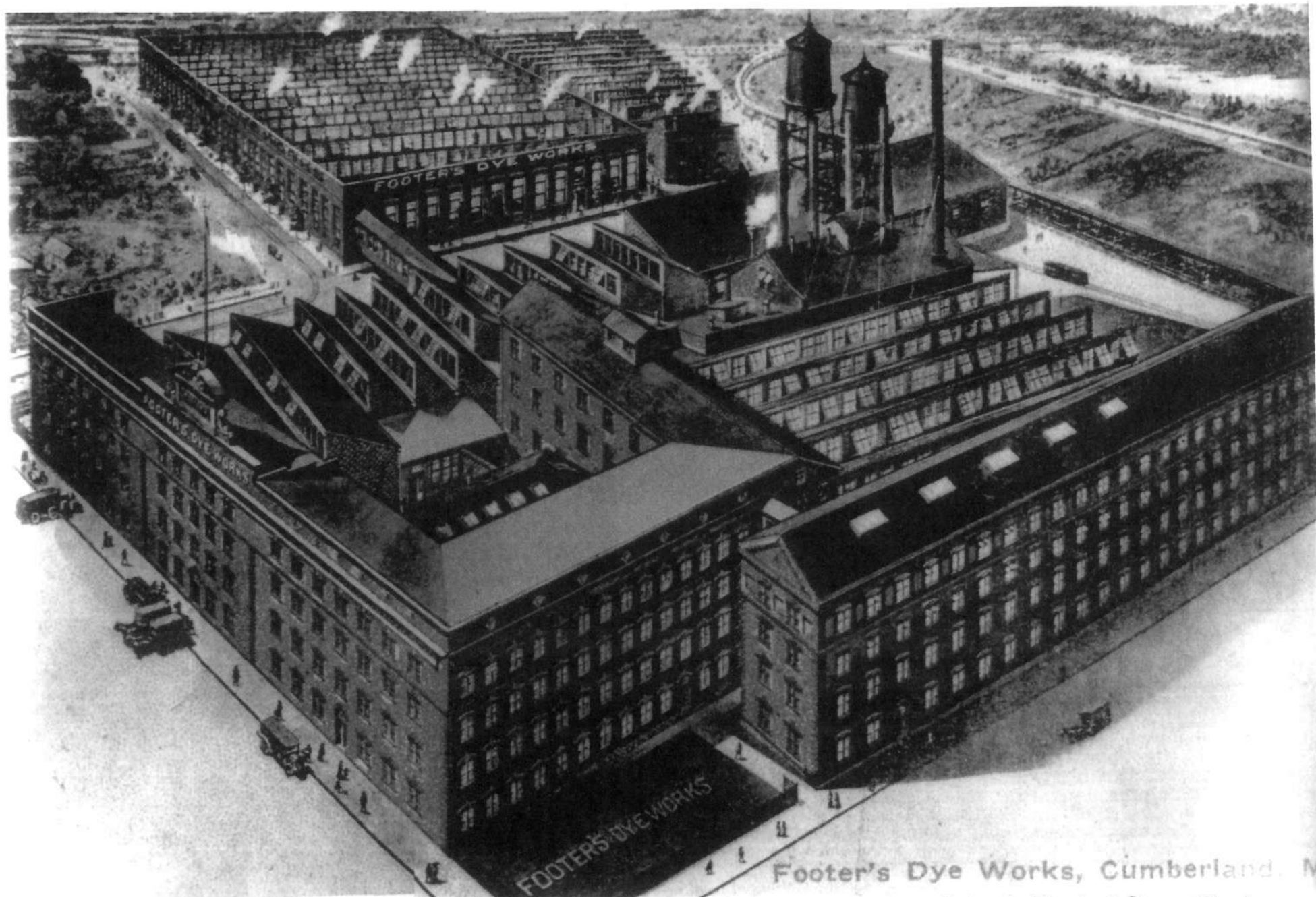
BRANCH OFFICES:
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
1118 CHESTNUT ST.
PITTSBURGH, PA.
637 LIBERTY AVE.
900 FEDERAL ST. N.E.
BALTIMORE, MD.

Footers Dye Works
INCORPORATED.
**EXPERT DYERS
AND CLEANERS**

CLEANING OF PORTIERS, CURTAINS,
BLANKETS, SILKS, LACES, VELVETS, PLUSH,
LADIES EVENING DRESSES AND GENTLEMENS CLOTHING ETC.

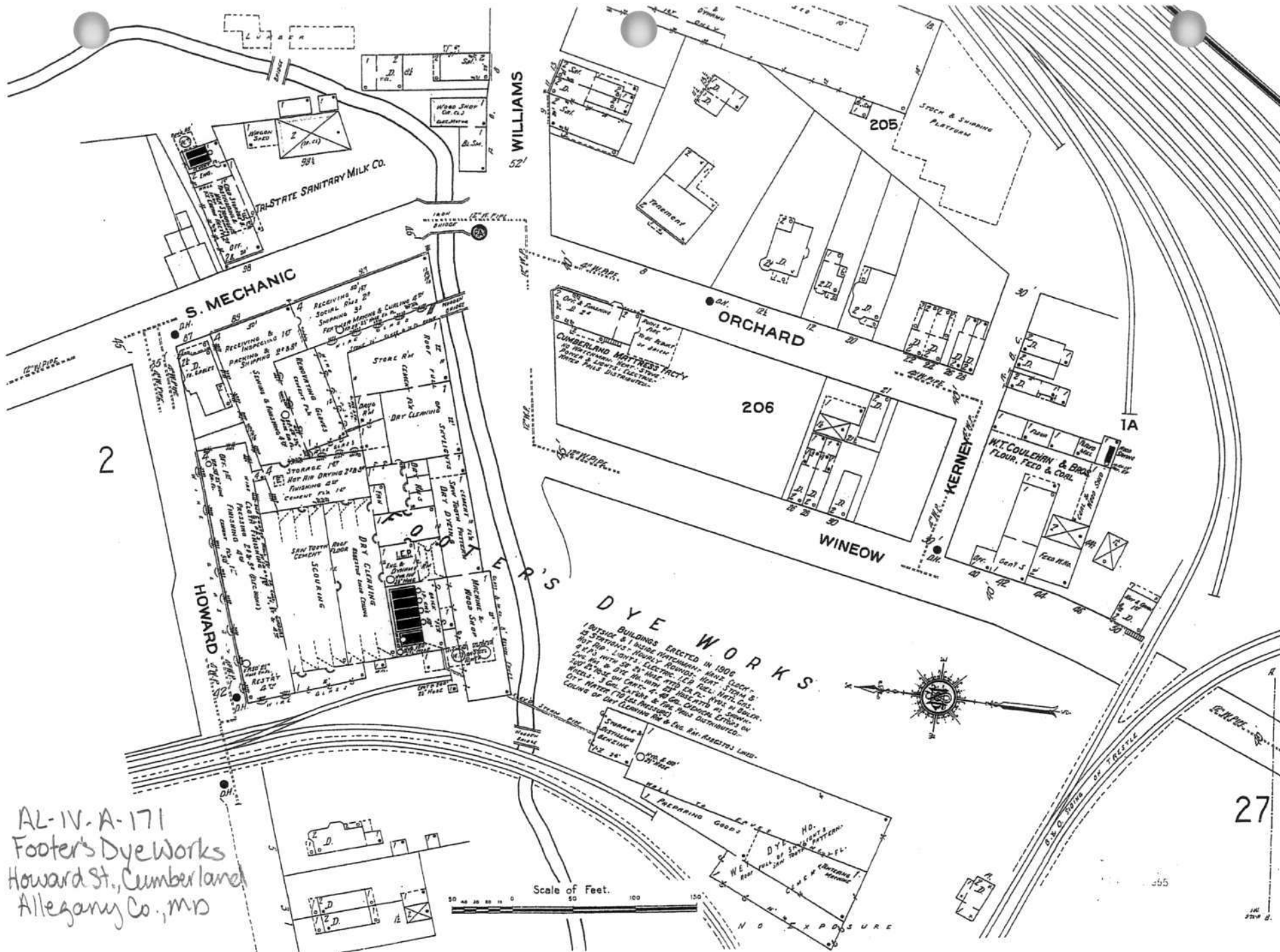
Cumberland Md.

Advertisement, Canal Place Auth. vertical file, n.d.



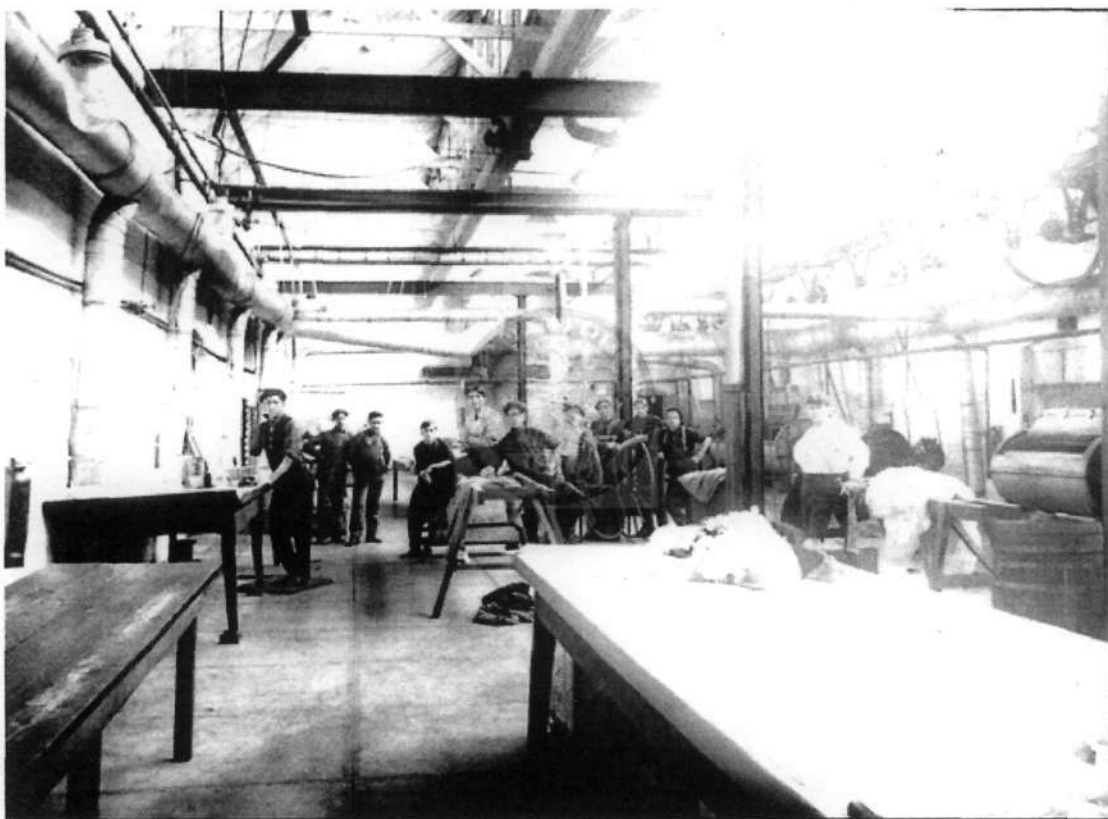
1911 Post Card, copy from Canal Place Auth. vertical file

AL-IV-A-171 Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD



AL-IV-A-171
 Footer's Dye Works
 Howard St., Cumberland
 Allegany Co., MD

1910 Sanborn Map



Herman & Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#0748 Footer's Dye Works (inside) Eleven employees
in photo - 1900

[actually after 1900, in sawtooth section]

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD



Herman + Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#1597 Footer's Dye Works employees

[n.d. - after 1906 - new bldg.]

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD



Herman & Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#0689 Cumberland Homecoming Week Welcome Arch. 1912?
Baltimore St at Center St. (Advertising Footers Dye Works)

AL-IV-A-171
Footers Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD



Herman & Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#505, Wrecked W.M. RR Bridge

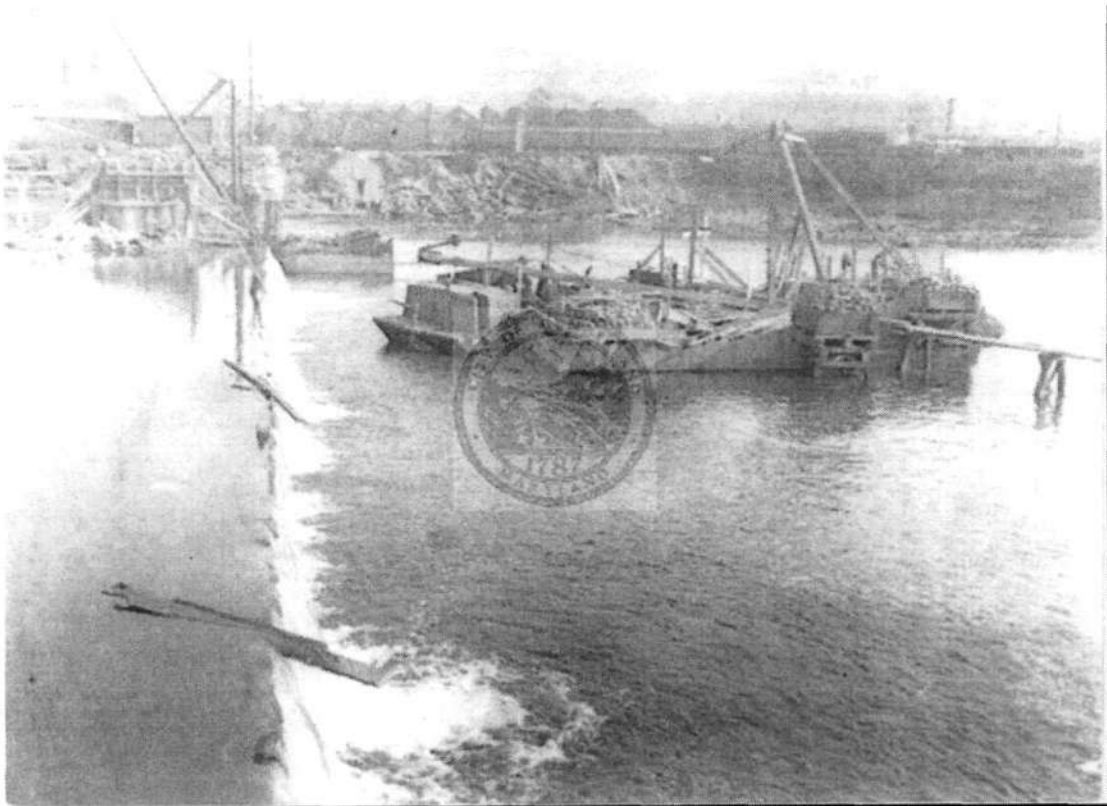
[view from West Virginia of the Potomac River, Footer's
Dye Works in in the background]

AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

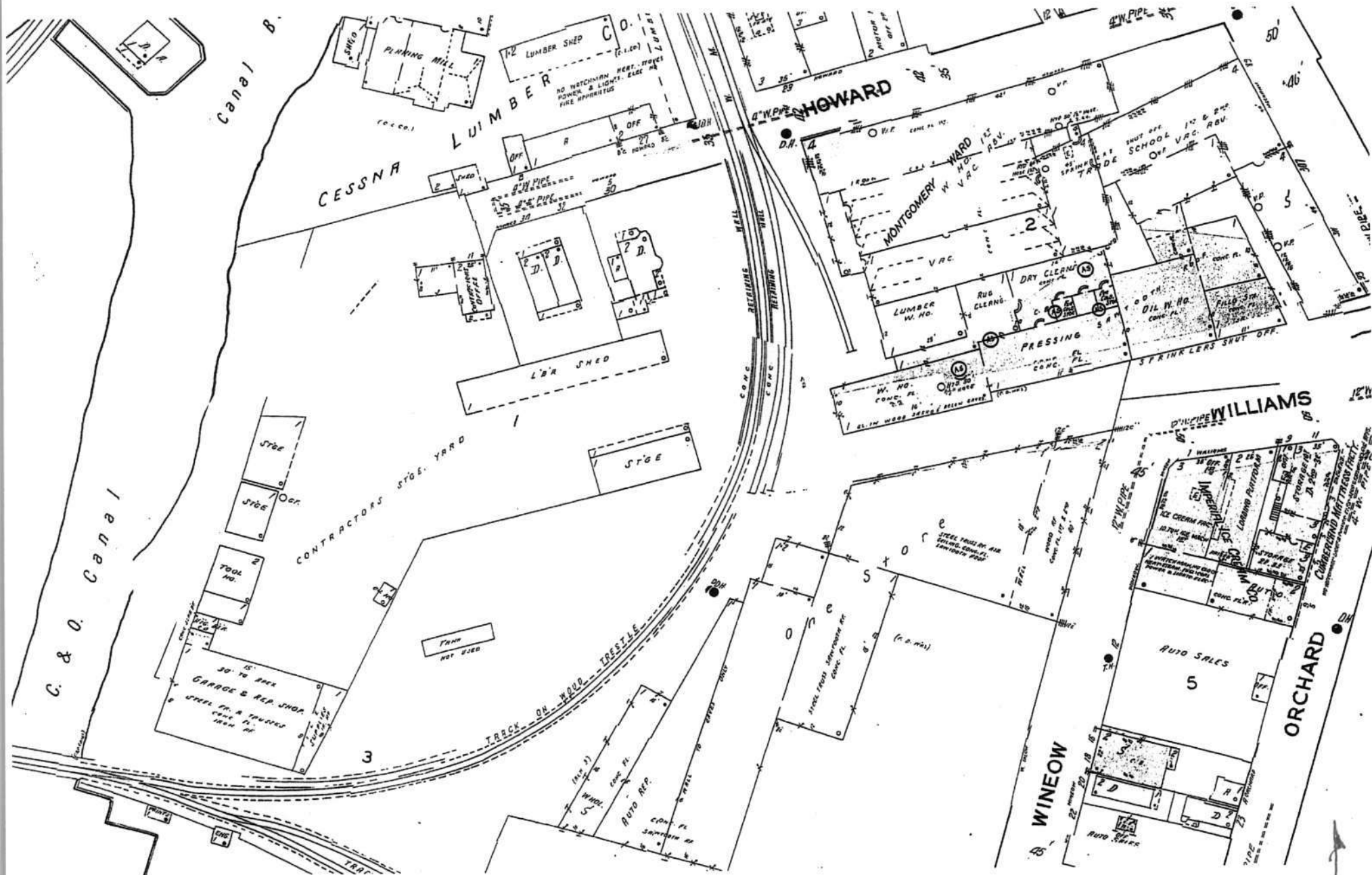
Howard St., Cumberland

Allegany Co., MD



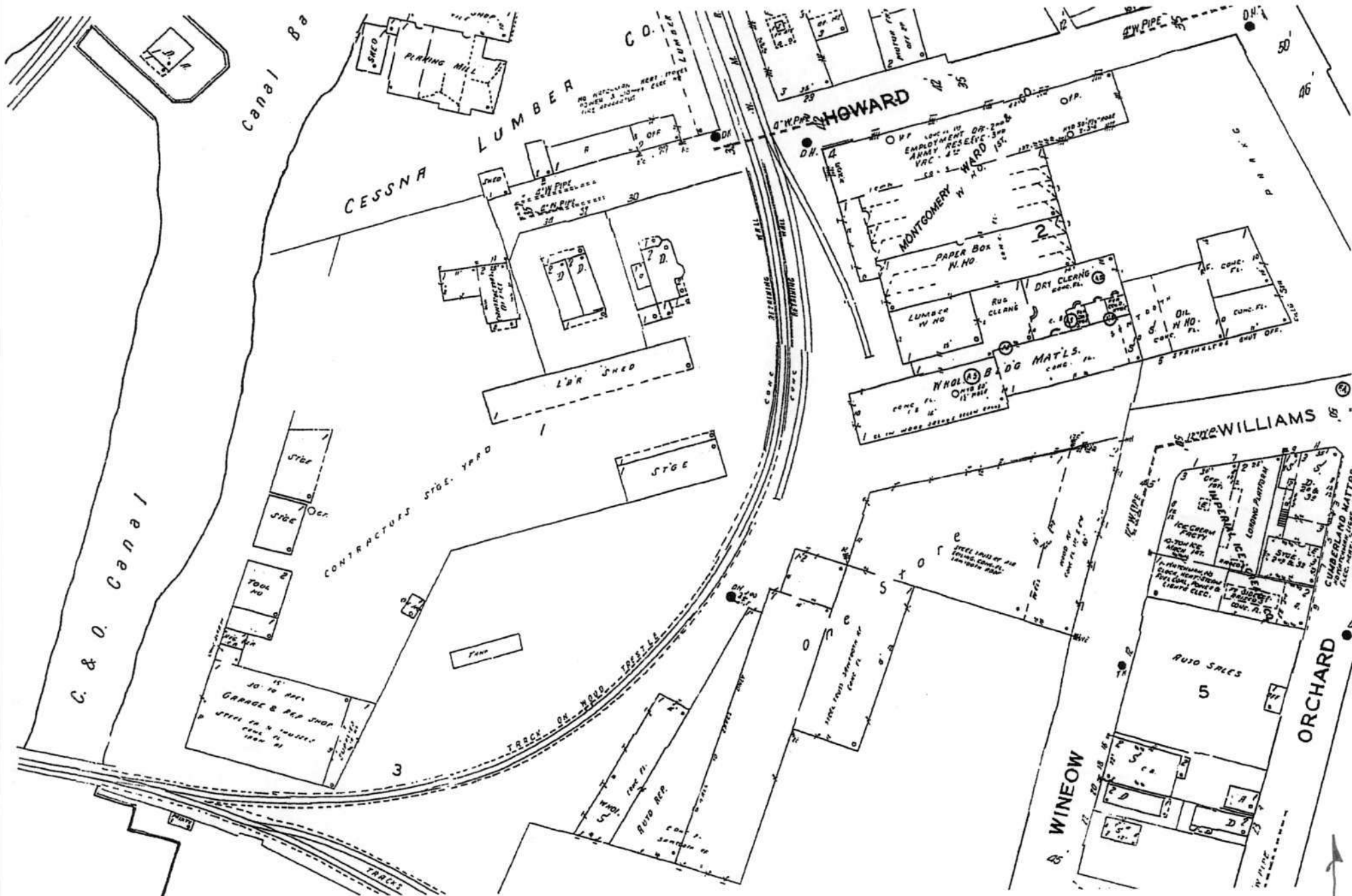
Herman + Stacia Miller Collection, City of Cumberland
#97, Footer Dye Works in Background. Possible Bridge construction.

AL-IV-A-171
Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland
Allegany Co., MD



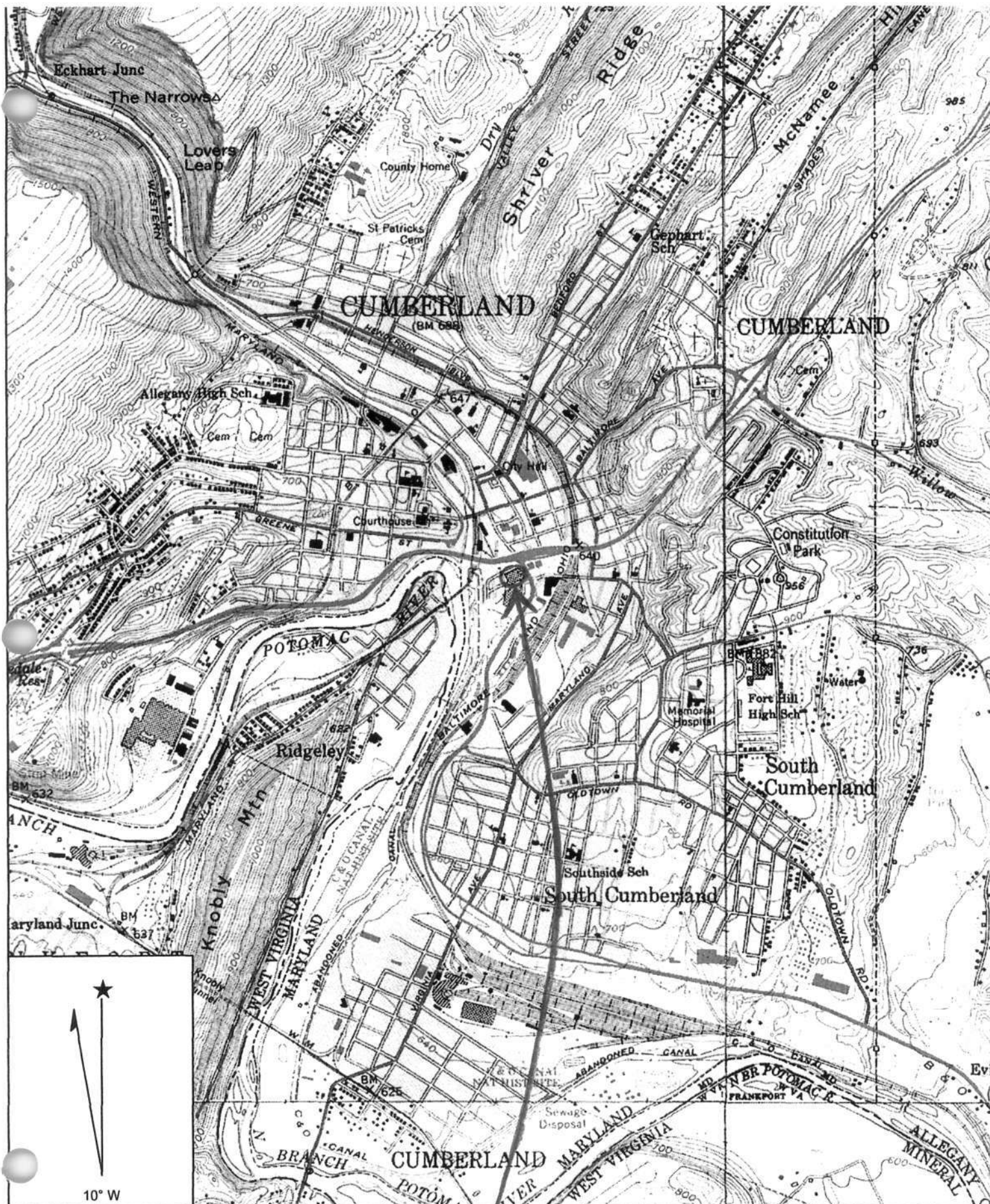
1949 Sanborn Map

AL-IV-A-171 Footers Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD



1956 Sanborn Map

AL-IV-A-171 Footer's Dye Works
Howard St., Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD



Name: CUMBERLAND
 Date: 12/29/2005
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 38' 50.2" N 078° 45' 45.7" W
 Caption: AL-IV-A-171
 Footer's Dye Works
 Cumberland, Allegany Co.



AL-IV-A-17.1

Foster's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

W elevation, view NE from Festival Grounds

1/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

W and S elevations, view NE

2/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

W gable elevation, view NE

3/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

W sawtooth elevation, view E

4/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foster's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

N and W elevations, view SE

5/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

N elevation, view SE from Howard St.

6/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foder's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

16/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

N elevation, view SE from under I-68 viaduct

7/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

S elevation, view NW from vacant Footer's lot

8/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

S elevation, view NW

9/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MIT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

S and E elevations, view NW from vacant Footer's lot

10/46



NATIONAL
RENT-A-RENT
1-800-352-8678

AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

E gable elevation, view NW of SE corner

11/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

view W of sawtooth section interior, into first floor
gable section on right (north)

12/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MTT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior sawtooth section, view SW of south

interior dividing wall (on left)

13/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, view E of sawtooth section South interior
dividing wall, from first floor gable section

14/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co, MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Interior, view W from sawtooth section into
first floor gable section, north wall w/ windows

15/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foder's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

Pi Reed and Assoc, Hagerstown, MD

Interior, first floor, detail of steel framing and
connection at dividing wall between gable
and sawtooth sections, view W

16/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foster's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, detail of steel framing and
connection of two sections, view W

17/46



AL-IV-A-M1

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, detail of steel beam support
of brick (S) wall of gable section and embedded
beam of sawtooth section

18/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Interior, first floor, detail of embedded beam
of sawtooth section into S wall of gable section

19
46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Meacham and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, detail of framing in sawtooth
section

20/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, detail of sawtooth roof framing

2/46

Kodak Professional
PAPER • PAPER • PAPER



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, view SW toward W end of

S room in Sawtooth section

22/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, view NE toward E end of
S room in sawtooth section

23/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

PiReed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, view W showing stair hall
and bathrooms in W end of gable section, window
along N wall

24/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foster's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, view NE of E end of gable
Section

25/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, view NE of partitioned
office space, E end of gable section

26/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, detail of arched entrance,
N wall of gable section, view NW

27/46



AL-N-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, stair hall, W end of gable
Section

view SW

28/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footers Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

'interior, first floor', detail of stair hall, W end
of gable section

29/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, first floor, detail of stair hall enclosure
door, and brick pier + steel support beam, W end
of gable section

30/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

3, Mechanic and Howard streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, second floor, view of stair hall from
2nd floor landing, W end of gable section

31/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co, MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, second floor, view NE toward E end of
gable section

32/
46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

view SE of sawtooth roof section through window
on 2nd floor stair landing, W end of gable section

33/
46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, second floor, view of stair hall leading
to 3rd floor, W end of gable section

34/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foder's Dye Works

S. Meachanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co, MD

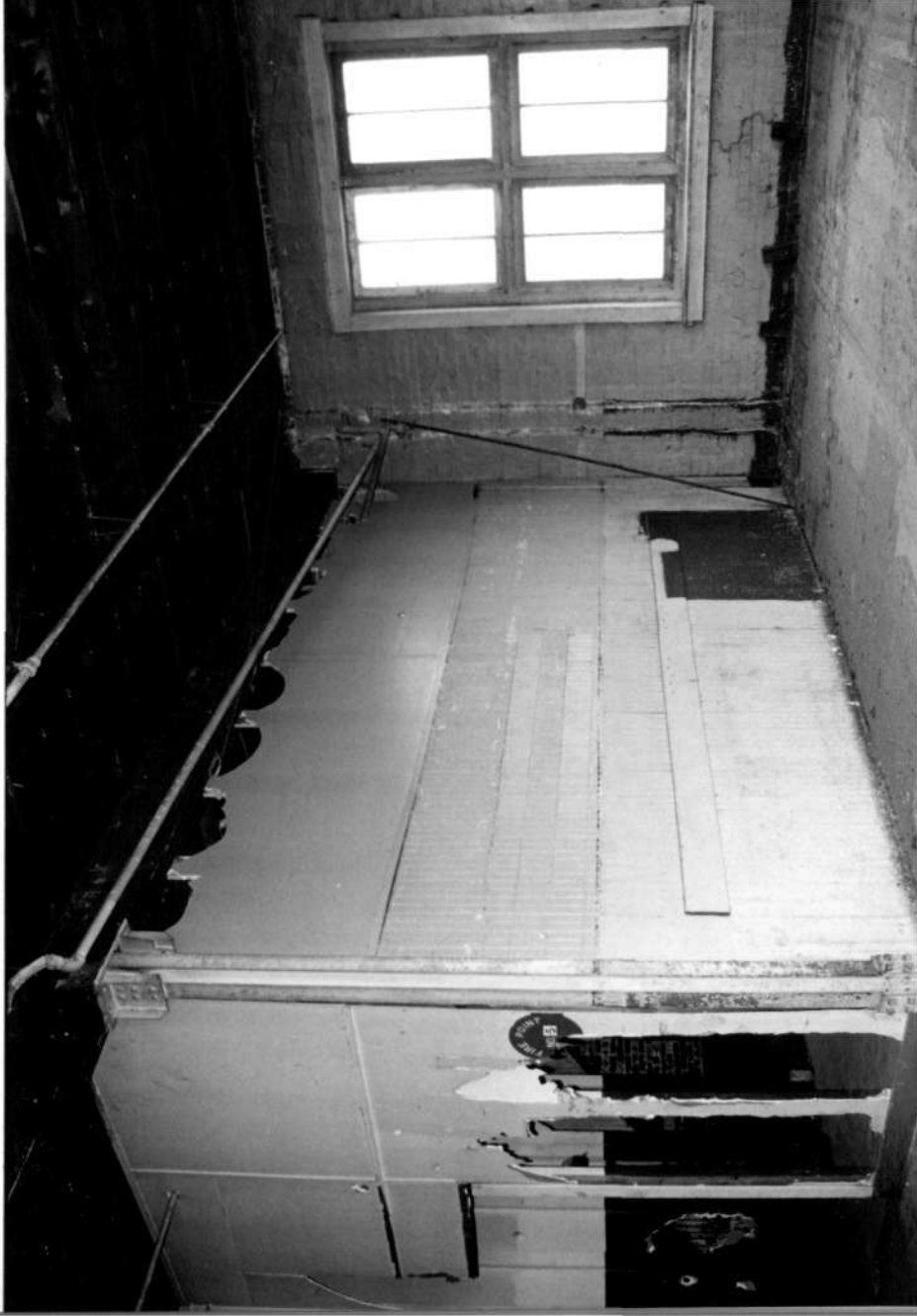
10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, third floor, view NE toward E end of
gable section

35/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, third floor, view NW of foreman's office
partition, W end of gable section

36/46



AL-IV-A-171

Foster's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Interior, fourth floor, view NE toward E end
of gable section

37/46



AL-IV-A-171

Feeder's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, fourth floor, detail of skylight in gable
section

38/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown MD

interior, fourth floor, detail of elevator in gable
section

39/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

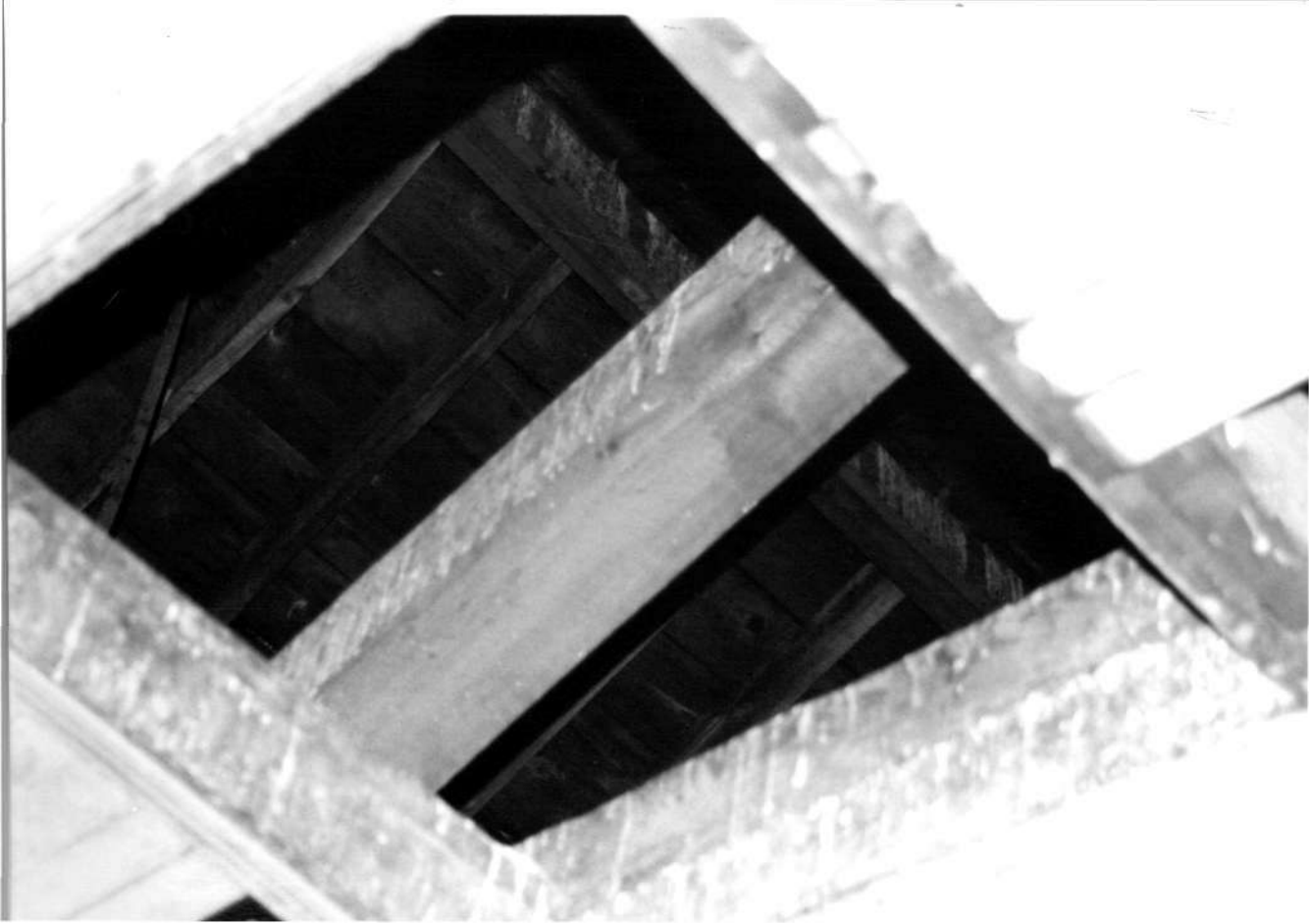
MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

interior, fourth floor, view E of stair hall in

SE corner, E end of gable section

40/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

mHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Interior, fourth floor, detail of roof framing, viewed
through ceiling access, gable section

41/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/65

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Setting, view SW of C+O Canal restoration,
W of Footer's Dye Works bldg.

42/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets
Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

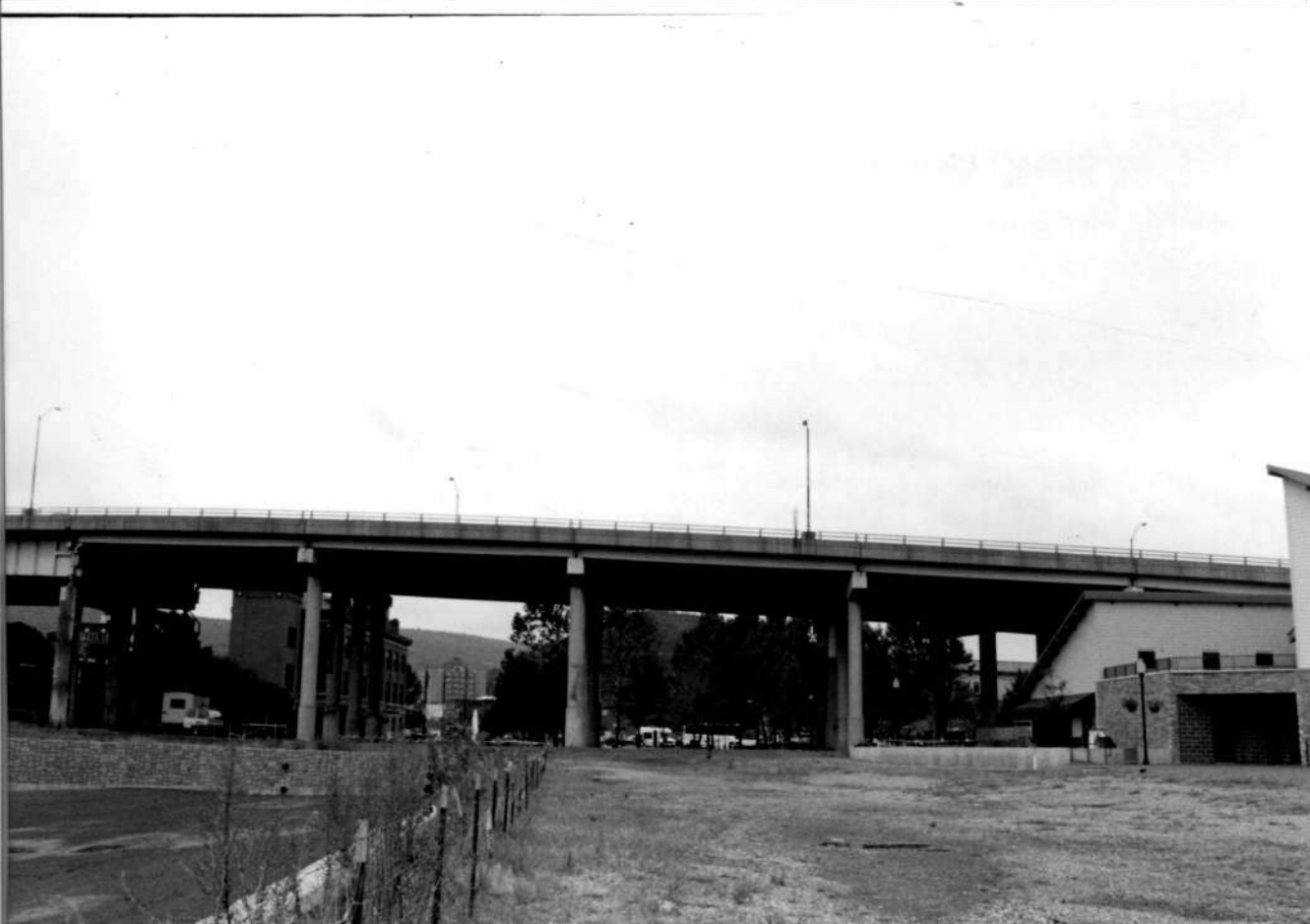
10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Setting, view NW of C&D Canal basin
restoration, W of Footer's Dye Works bldg.

43/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Setting, view N of I-68 viaduct from bank of
C&O Canal basin, NW of Footer's Dye Works bldg

44/46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/65

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

Setting, view NE of modern commercial bldgs
NW of Footer's Dye Works bldg., from bank
of C & O Canal basin.

45/
46



AL-IV-A-171

Footer's Dye Works

S. Mechanic and Howard Streets

Cumberland, Allegany Co., MD

10/05

MHT

P. Reed and Assoc., Hagerstown, MD

setting, view E of modern commercial bldgs
W of Footer's Dye Works bldg, from bank
of C & O Canal basin

46/
46